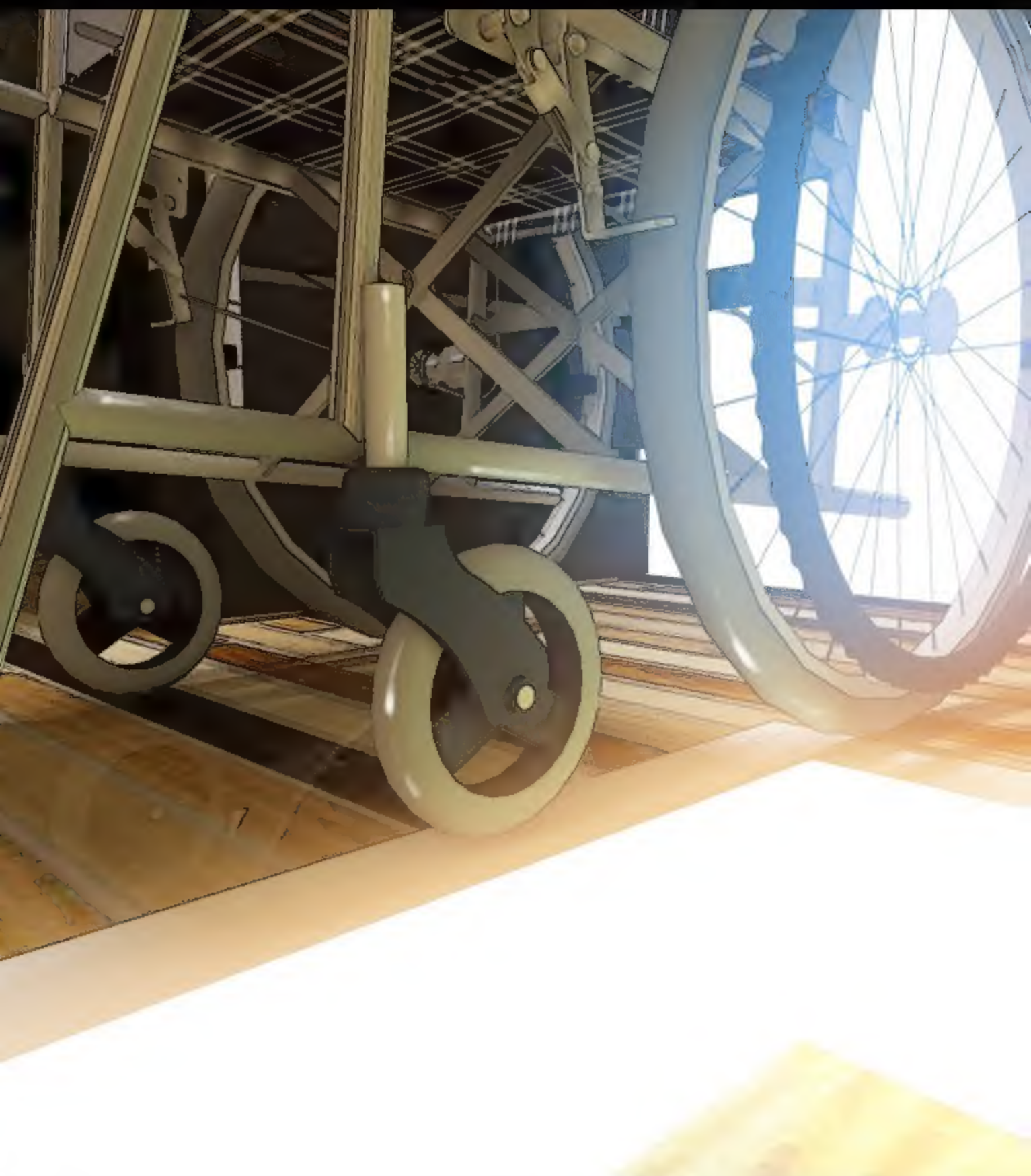


M-MOTHER-?

WE'RE HERE SARA-SAN.
...

57

Arise

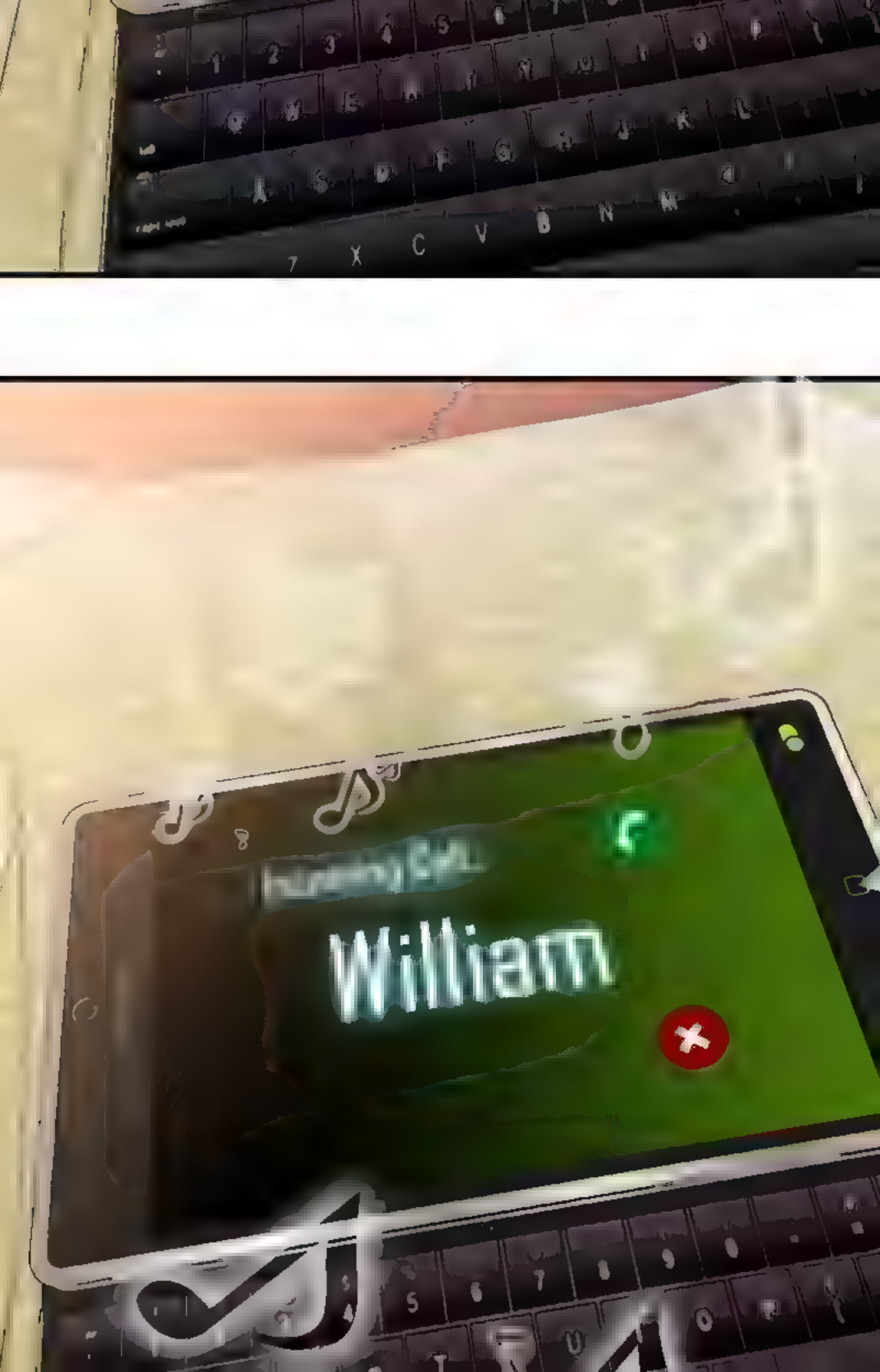
TWO NIGHTS EARLIER..

SHISUI PUBLIC BATH,
TOKYO

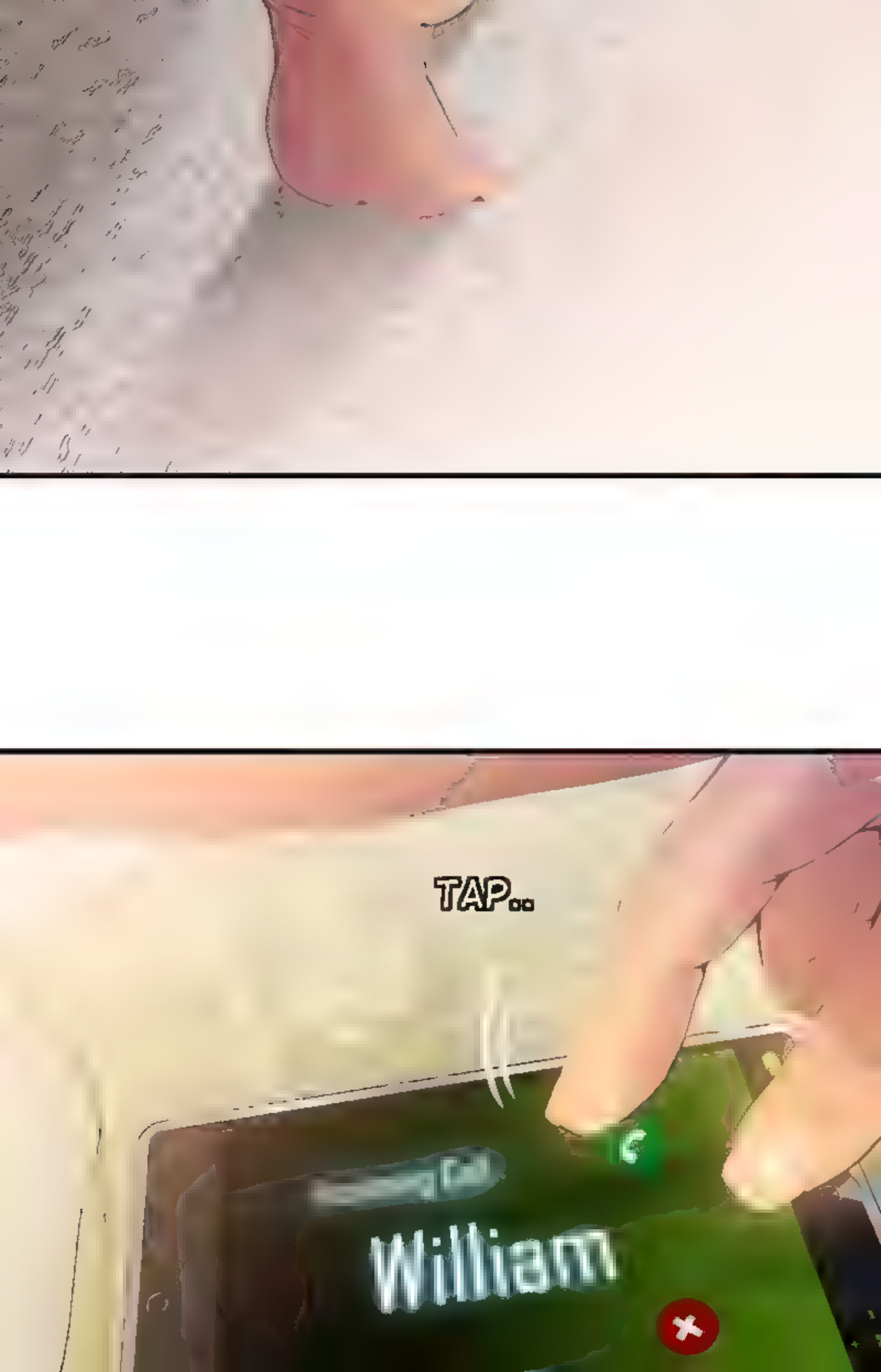
HUMMM..
HUMNN...

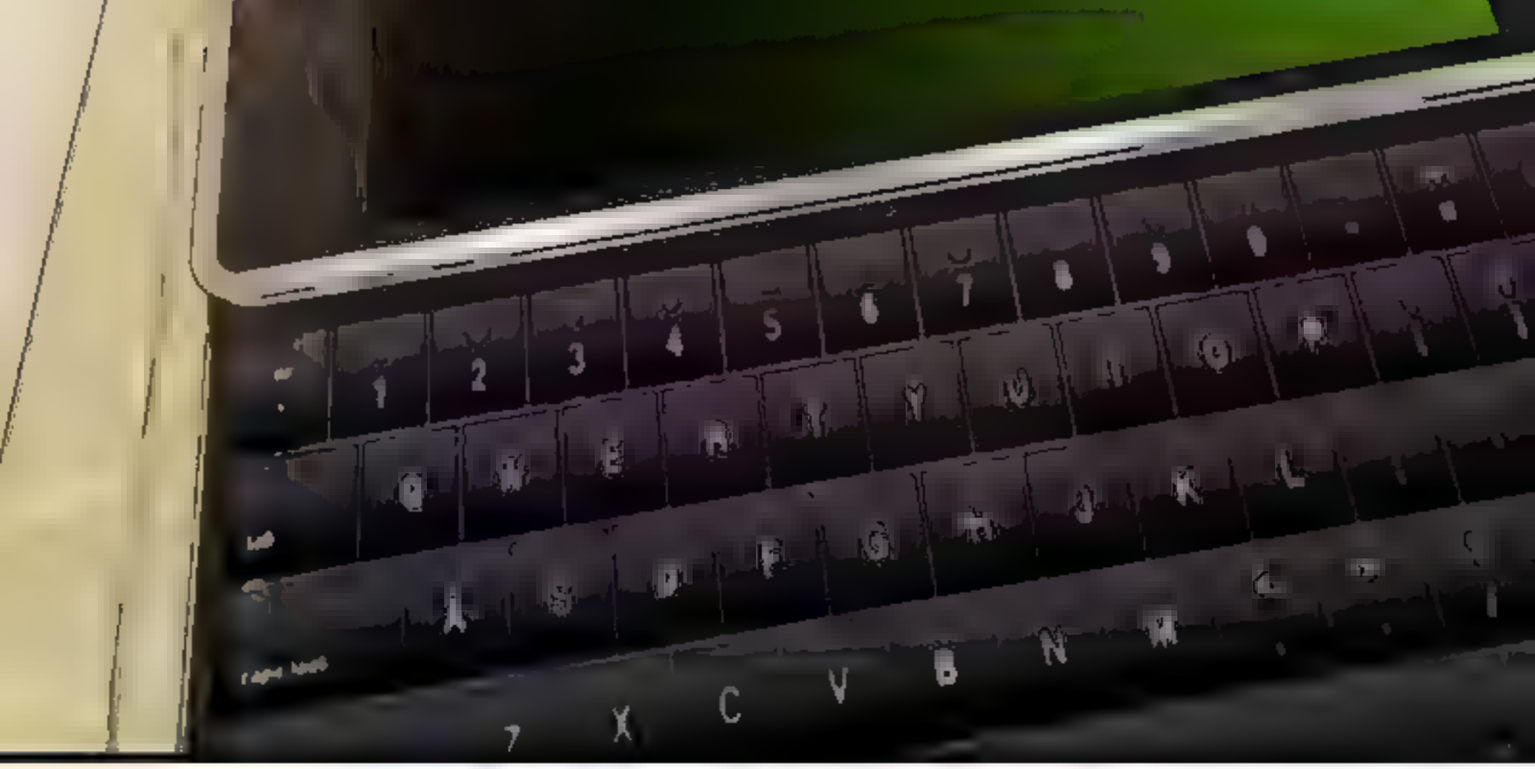
HUUMMN..
HUUMMNN..

MILADY PARDON MY INTRUSION.
I BROUGHT YOUR TOWEL.
THANK YOU, JUST LEAVE IT THERE AND WAIT FOR ME OUTSIDE.
OKAY.


William

(SUMIRE'S FIANCE)


TAP..
William



WHAT IS IT, WILLIAM?

I'M TAKING A BATH RIGHT NOW. I'LL CALL YOU BACK LATER, OKAY?

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NOT WANT THIS NEWS TO WAIT. REMEMBER THE DNA TEST YOU REQUESTED?
THE RESULT IS OUT. I JUST RECIEVED A MAIL FROM DR. LAURENT. DO YOU PREFER CHECKING IT YOURSELF OR DO YOU WANT ME TO READ IT FOR YOU?

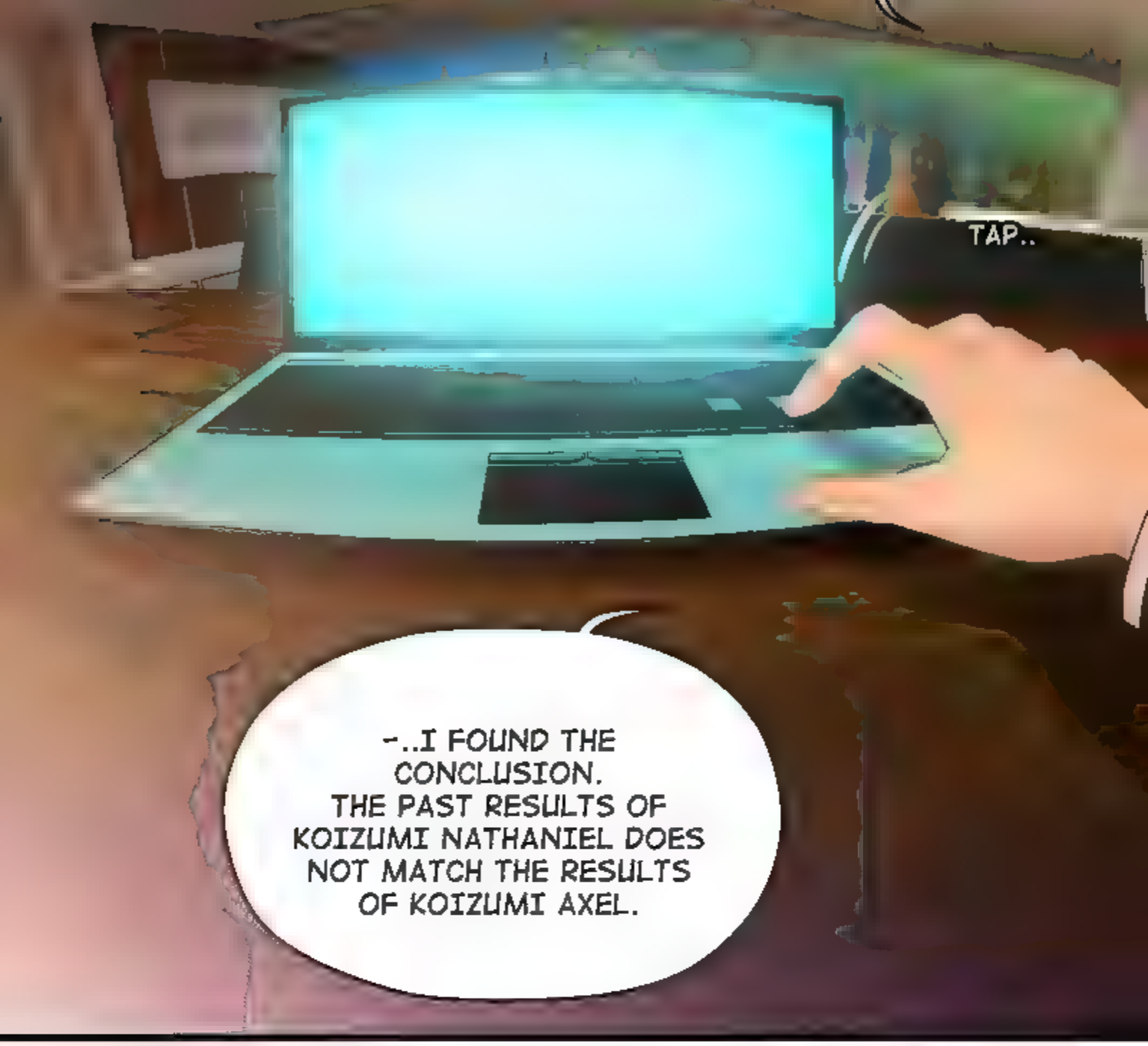
WOW THAT WAS QUICK.

ALRIGHT,
LET'S SEE.

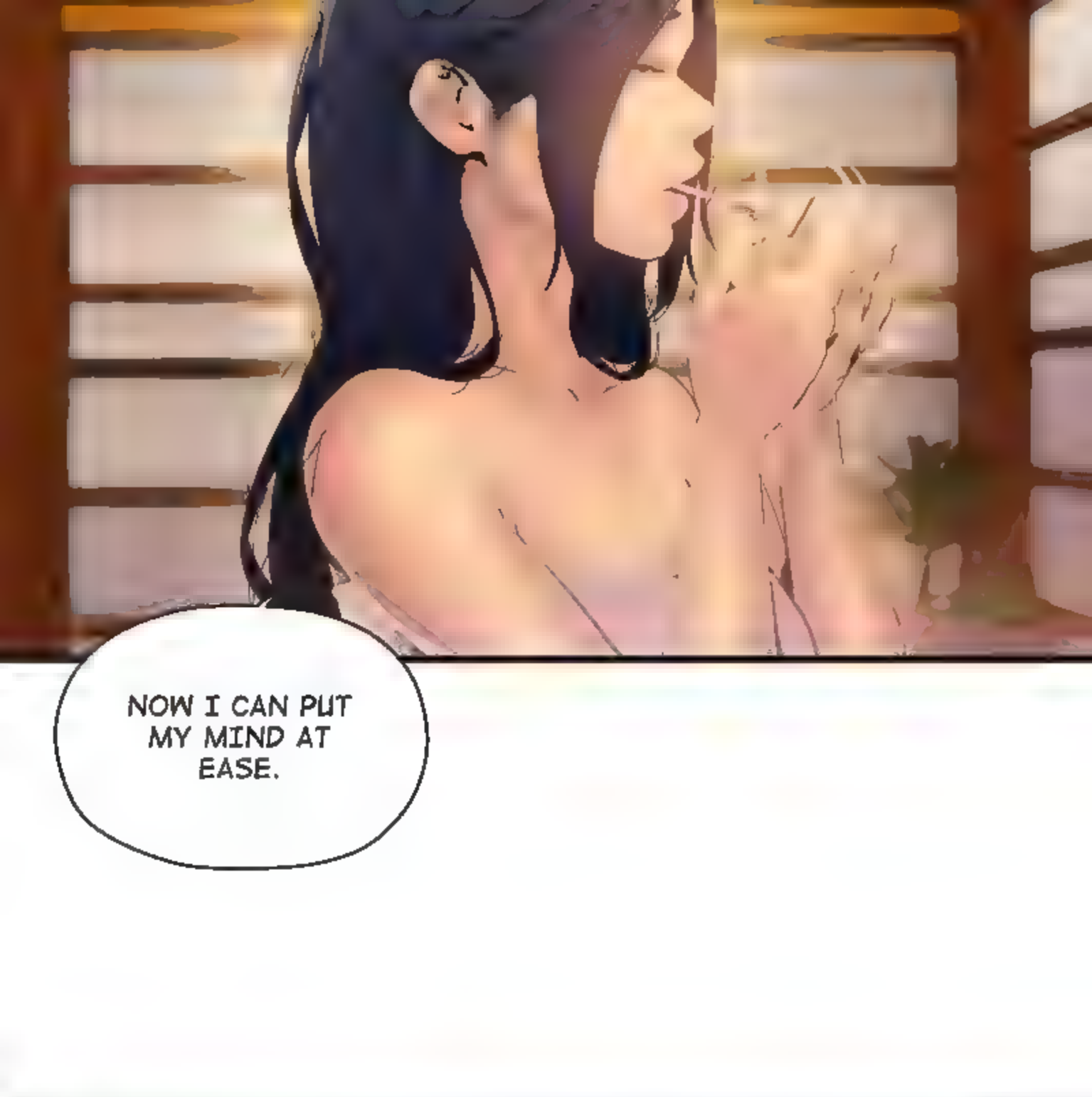
TAP..

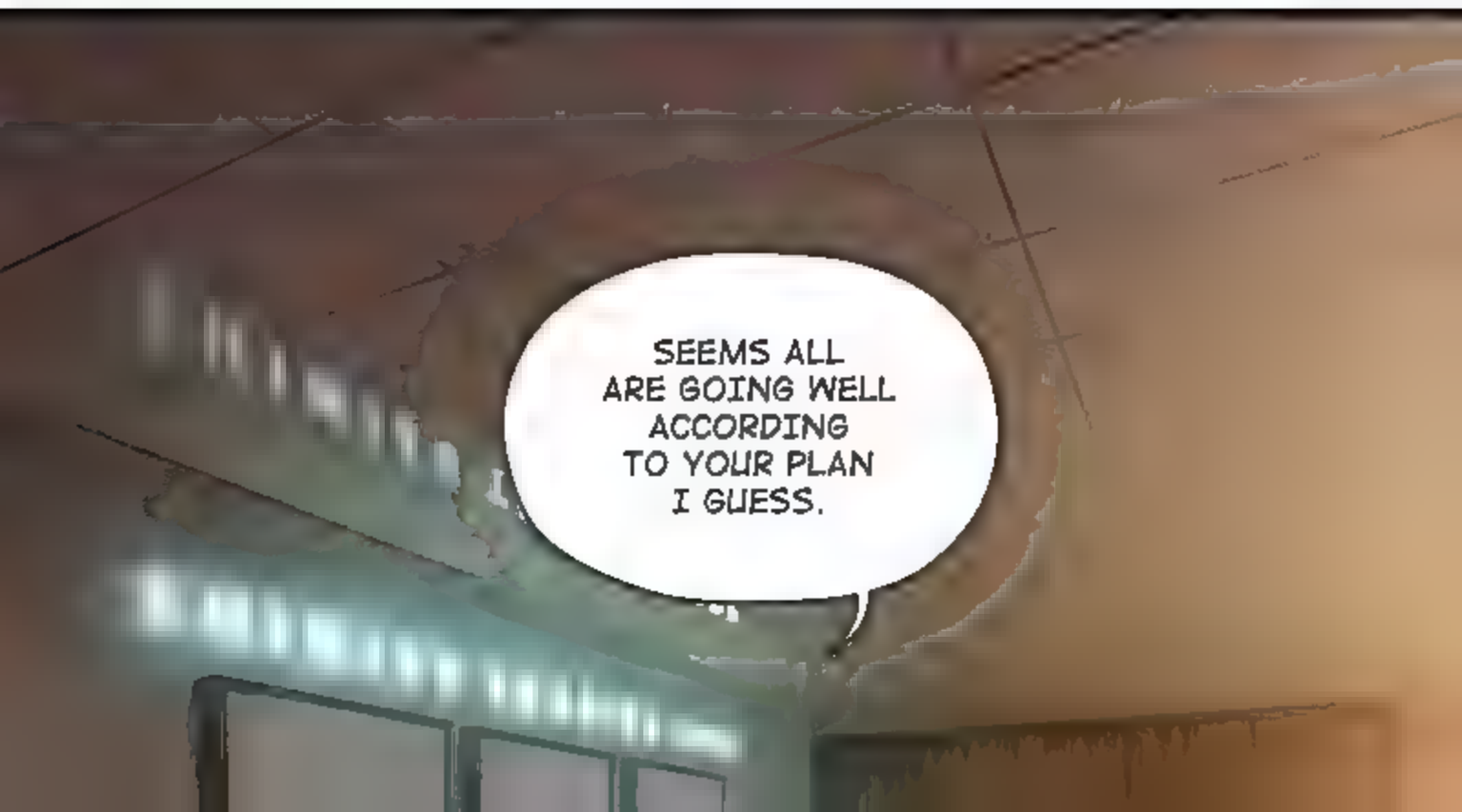
THE MAIL CONTAINS
SEVEN PAGES
OF INFORMATION..

TAP..


TAP..
-..I FOUND THE CONCLUSION. THE PAST RESULTS OF KOIZUMI NATHANIEL DOES NOT MATCH THE RESULTS OF KOIZUMI AXEL.

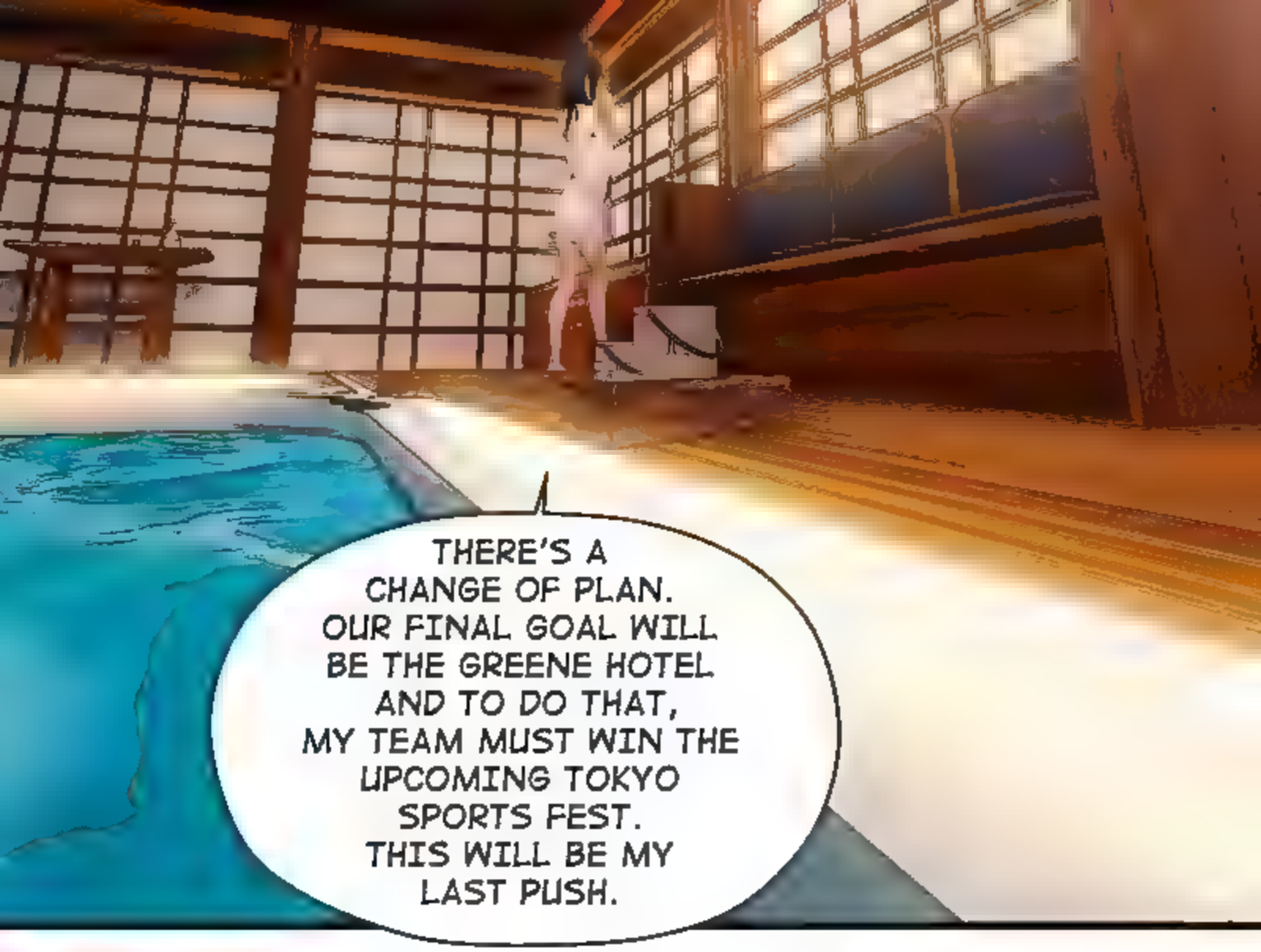
SO I WAS WORRIED FOR NOTHING, HUH? ANYHOW, THAT'S GOOD NEWS.

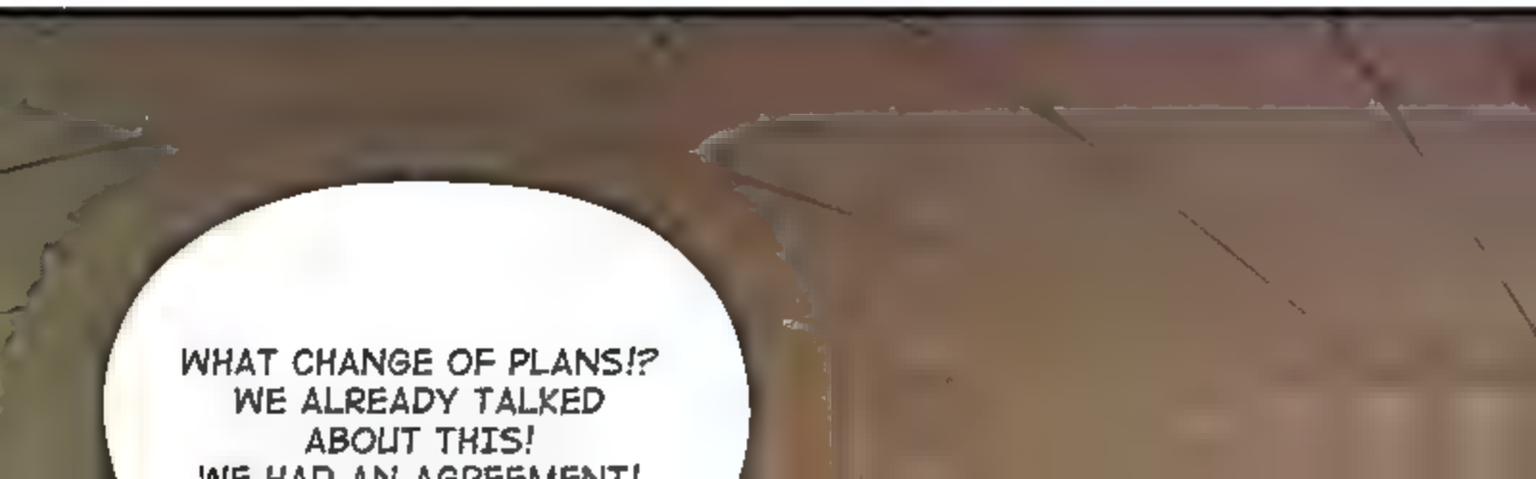

NOW I CAN PUT MY MIND AT EASE.


SEEMS ALL ARE GOING WELL ACCORDING TO YOUR PLAN I GUESS.

NOW THAT WE GOT THE SHIMIZU COMPANY AND THE DNA RESULT IS OUT, YOU HAVE YOUR ANSWERS. SO, ARE WE DONE HERE?

I'M NOT DONE JUST YET.


THERE'S A CHANGE OF PLAN. OUR FINAL GOAL WILL BE THE GREENE HOTEL AND TO DO THAT, MY TEAM MUST WIN THE UPCOMING TOKYO SPORTS FEST. THIS WILL BE MY LAST PUSH.


WHAT CHANGE OF PLANS!? WE ALREADY TALKED ABOUT THIS! WE HAD AN AGREEMENT!

WE HAD AN AGREEMENT!
WE ARE NOT PLAYING GAMES HERE SUMIRE! WE'RE GOING BACK TO FRANCE NEXT WEEK! UNLESS YOU WANT ALL YOUR HARDWORK TO GO FOR NOTHING!

*CHUCKLES..
DON'T LET THIS MARRIAGE GET INTO YOUR HEAD WILLIAM.
YOU KNOW I AM ONLY DOING THIS FOR BUSINESS. I NEED YOUR WEALTH AND POWER. THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.

GOOD!

THEN WE DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEM.
YOU CAN GO OUT WITH SOMEONE YOU LIKE AND SAME GOES FOR ME.
I GUESS OUR FEELINGS ARE CLEAR NOW. YOU DON'T HAVE TO RESTRAIN YOURSELF. GO OUT AND HAVE FUN.

BY THE WAY,
I HAVE A CONFESSION
TO MAKE.
DO YOU MIND?

DO YOU REMEMBER THE GUY AT THE

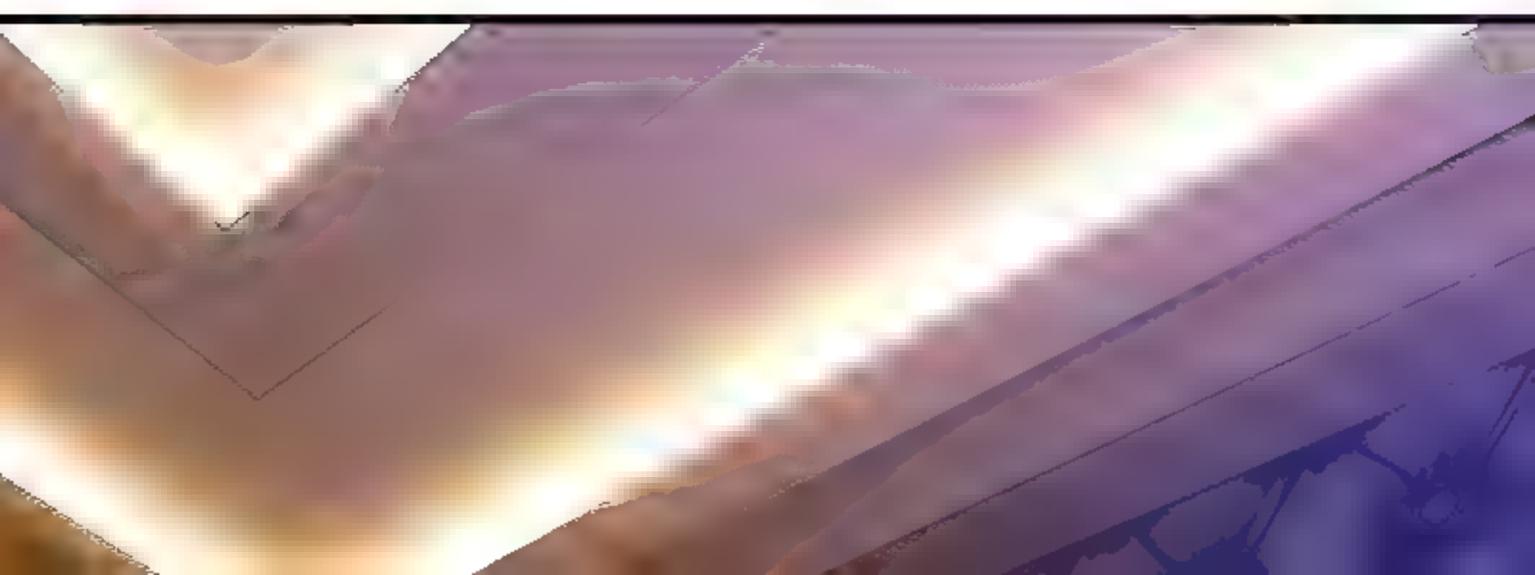
HOSPITAL?
THE RED-HAIRED ONE WHO'S WITH ANYA THE WHOLE TIME.
THAT'S HIM.
" KOIZUMI AXEL"

WHA-!?
SO THAT'S WHAT ALL THIS IS ABOUT?
YES.

IT'S QUITE OBVIOUS ANYA LIKES THE GUY THOUGH.
SHE MIGHT HATE ME FOR DOING THIS BUT-...
-..TO TELL YOU HONESTLY..
FWWWHHP..

FHOOOO..

I LIKE HIM TOO.



N-NO..
NO WAY--..
THIS CAN'T
BE REAL..
SHE'S--..

OH MY GOD..

離婚
BUT IT WAS ON THE NEWS-..

WHAT IS
GOING ON HERE!?

SO IT WAS YOU AFTERALL.
I AM SO DISAPPOINTED IN YOU SUMIRE. IT NEVER CROSSED MY MIND THAT YOU'D STEP DOWN TO YOUR GRANDFATHER'S LEVEL. WHAT A WASTE.
YOU DON'T GET IT!

ALL OF THIS WAS UNCLE NATHAN'S FAULT!! DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP HE HAD WITH THIS WOMAN!?

I ONLY DID WHAT I THOUGHT WAS RIGHT. I PROTECTED ANYA! I SAVED YOUR FAMILY!

YOU PROTECTED NO ONE AND YOU SAVED YOUR PRIDE.

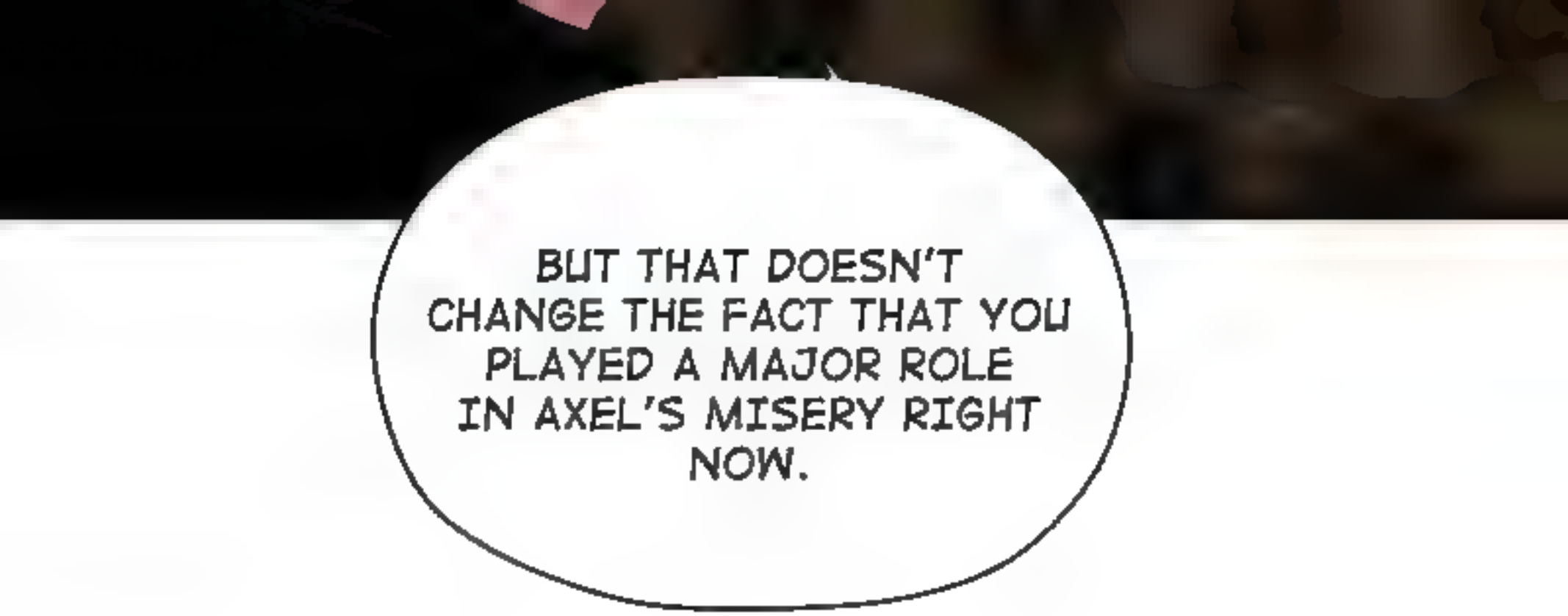
WHO DO YOU
THINK I AM?
DO I LOOK LIKE
A HELPLESS PARENT TO YOU?
THAT I CAN'T PROTECT
MY OWN DAUGHTER?
THINK AGAIN SUMIRE.

WELL I--..

I JUST-..

I DON'T KNOW ANYMORE.
YOUR PARENTS KNEW ABOUT ALL THESE. THEY CAME TO US BEFORE THE INCIDENT HAPPENED THE REASON WHY AXEL SURVIVED THAT NIGHT.

SARA WAS JUST
A FRAGMENT OF MY PAST
AND THE CHILD IS NOT MINE.
IF NOT BECAUSE OF THAT,
I WOULD NEVER MEET
AYANE.
ALL OF THESE
WAS STAGED BY YOUR
GRANDFATHER SUMIRE.


BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT YOU PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN AXEL'S MISERY RIGHT NOW.

SARA-SAN,
DO YOU STILL
REMEMBER HIM?
HIS NAME IS AXEL.
HE IS YOUR SON.
MY-..
..SON?

I DIDN'T KNOW SHE WAS YOUR MOTHER, I'M SO SORRY.
OH BY THE WAY, I AM ANYA'S UNCLE BUNNY. I BELIEVE WE'VE MET AT THE HOSPITAL, DO YOU STILL REMEMBER?
YEAH. WHAT HAPPENED TO HER? SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO REMEMBER ME.

ABOUT THAT..

I'M REALLY SORRY.

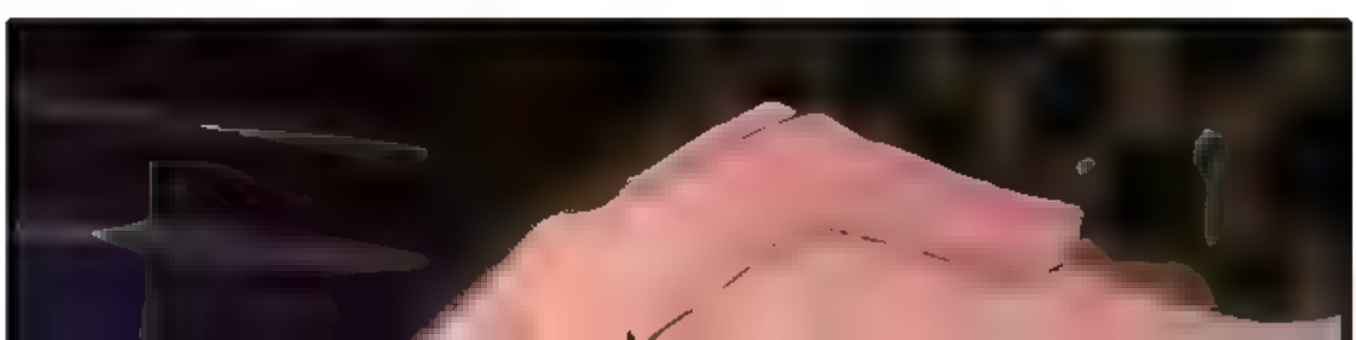
I WAS TASKED
TO TAKE CARE OF HER.
I DIDN'T KNOW SHE'S
YOUR MOTHER.
THE NIGHT SHE CAME TO OUR
HOUSEHOLD SHE'S ALREADY
IN THAT STATE.
SHE SUFFERED A MENTAL
BREAKDOWN DUE TO SEVERE
DEPRESSION BUT THE
DOCTOR SAID IT'S
TEMPORARY.

NOW THAT SHE'S WITH YOU, I BELIEVE SHE CAN RECOVER.
MUM, DO YOU RECOGNIZE ME? IT'S ME.. NATHANIEL REMEMBER?

NA-..

-..THAN..

-NIEL..?

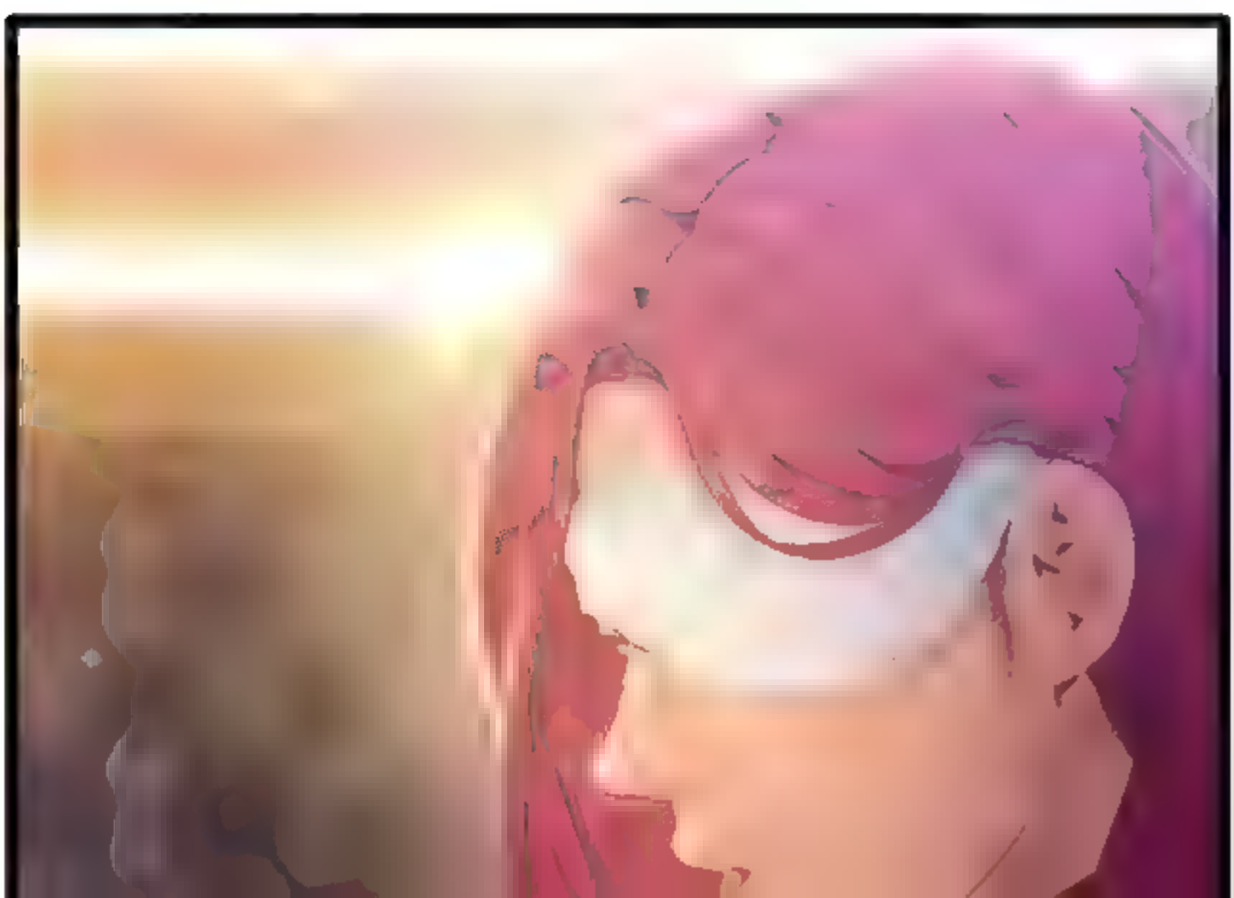


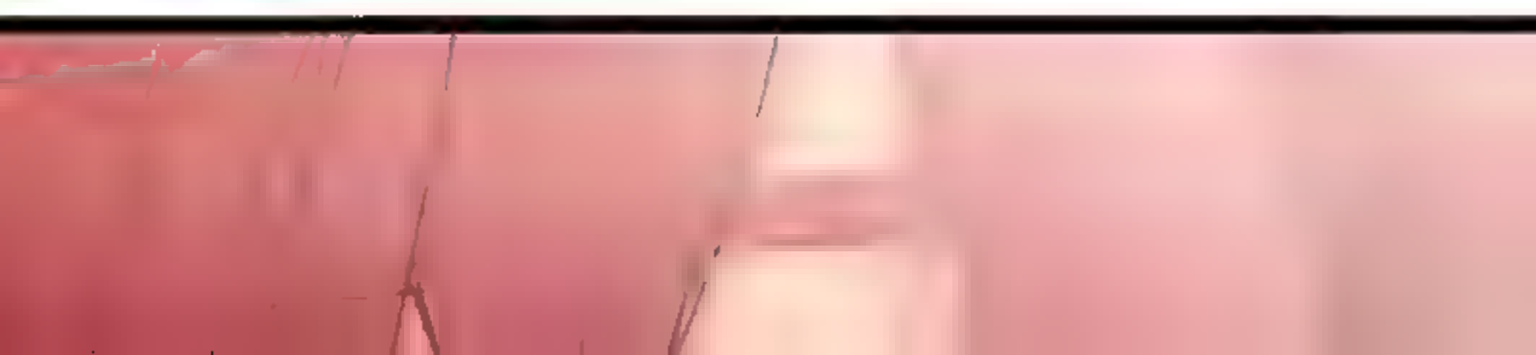
I'M SORRY.
I COULDN'T PROTECT YOU BACK THEN.

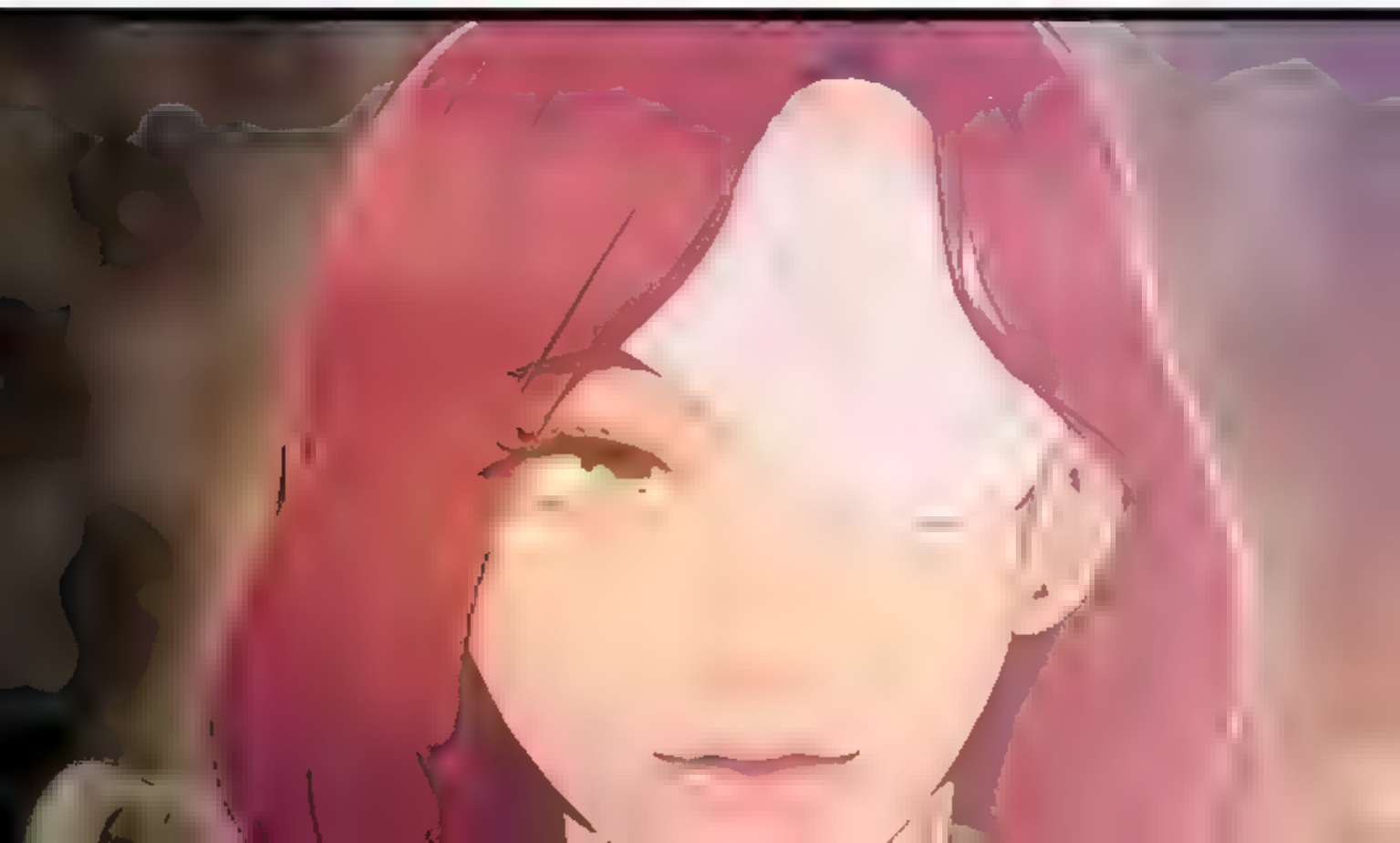
BECAUSE OF ME
YOU LOST EVERYTHING.
BECAUSE I WAS BORN
YOU LOST NATHAN-SENSEI.
YOU MARRIED SOMEONE
YOU DON'T LOVE.

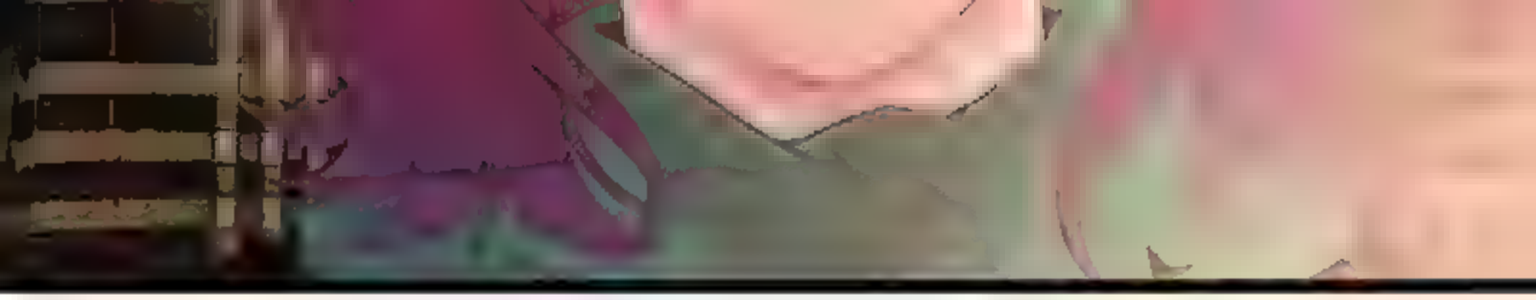
YOU LOST YOUR
FAMILY AND FRIENDS.
ALL BECAUSE OF ME.
YOU LOST EVERYONE.

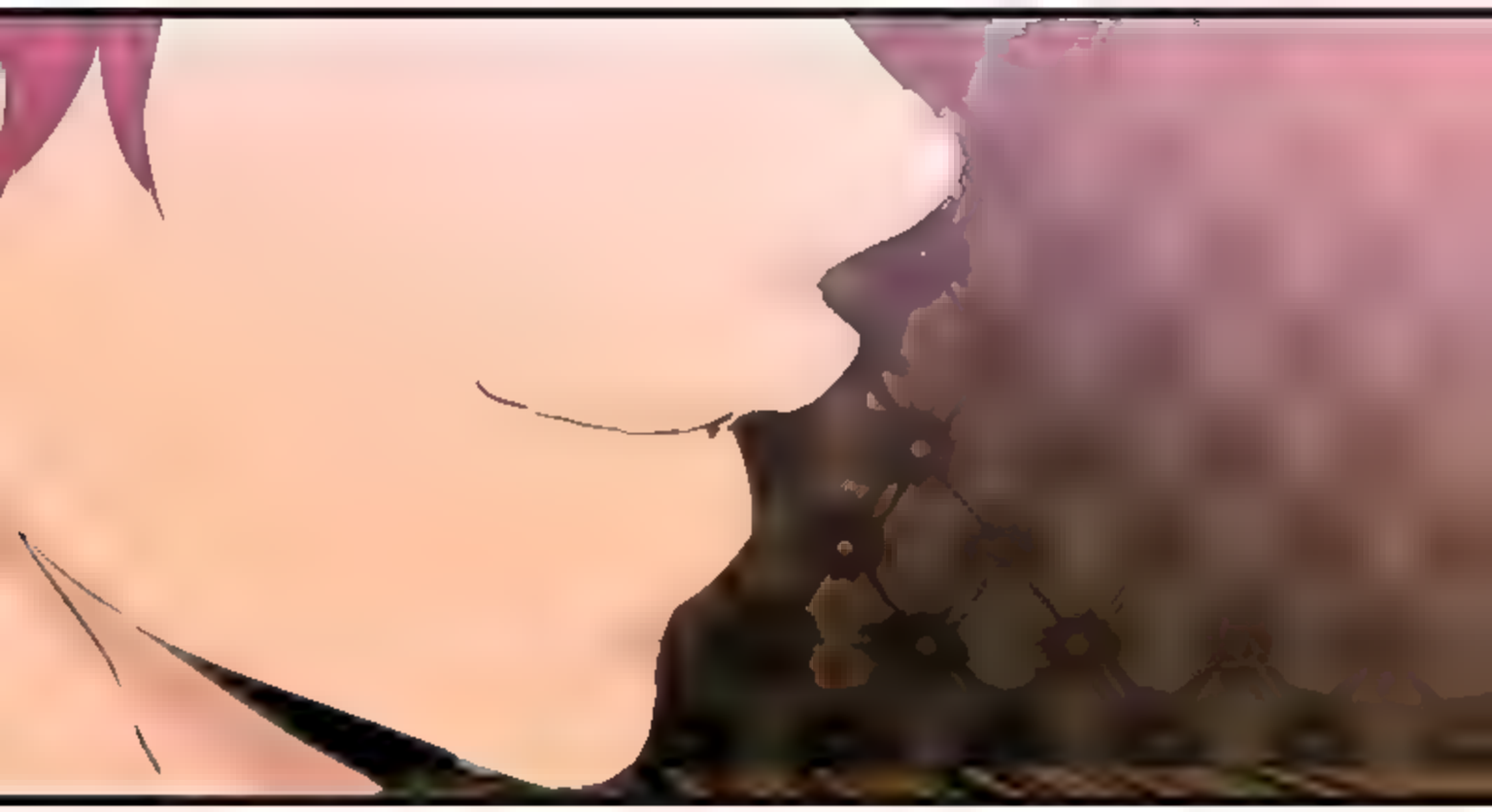
YOU-..





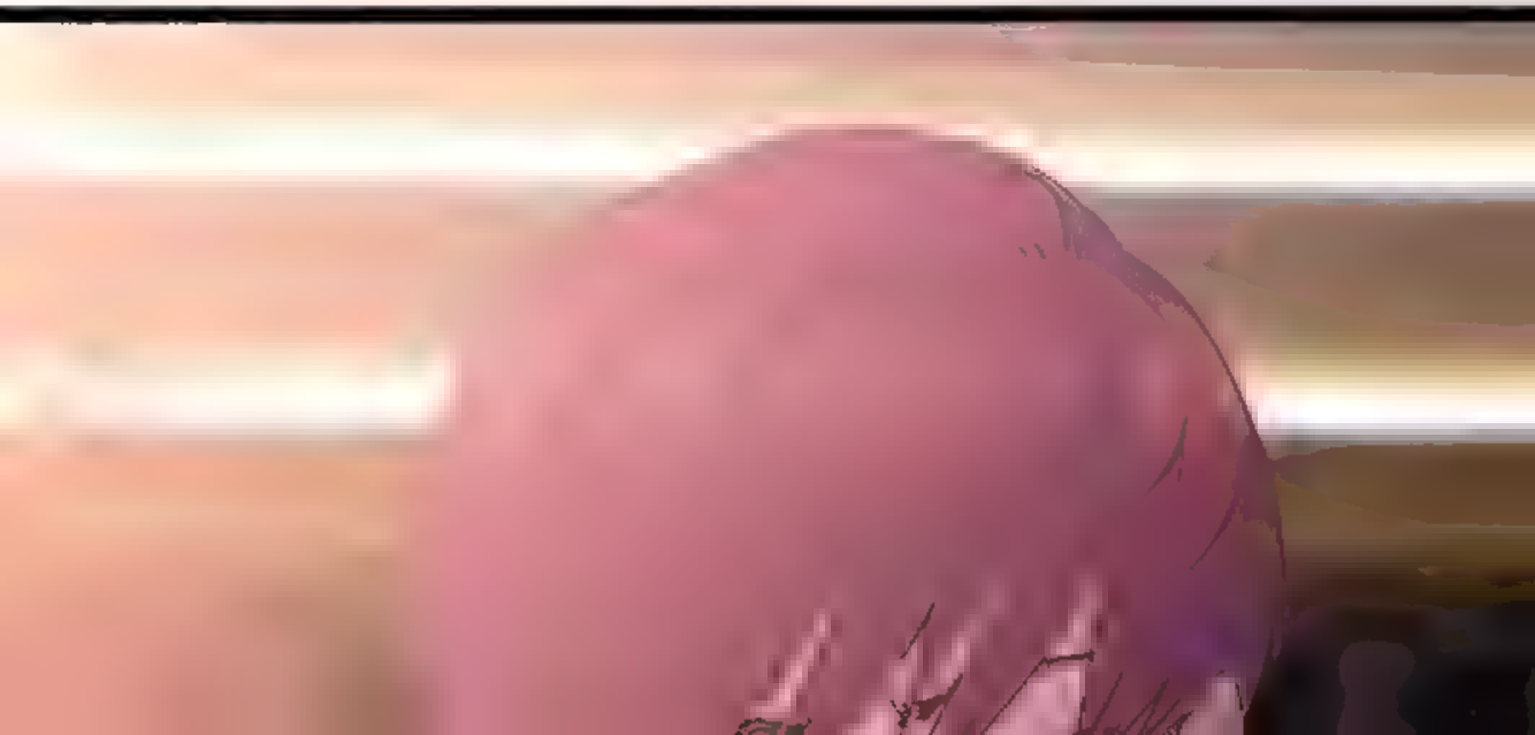


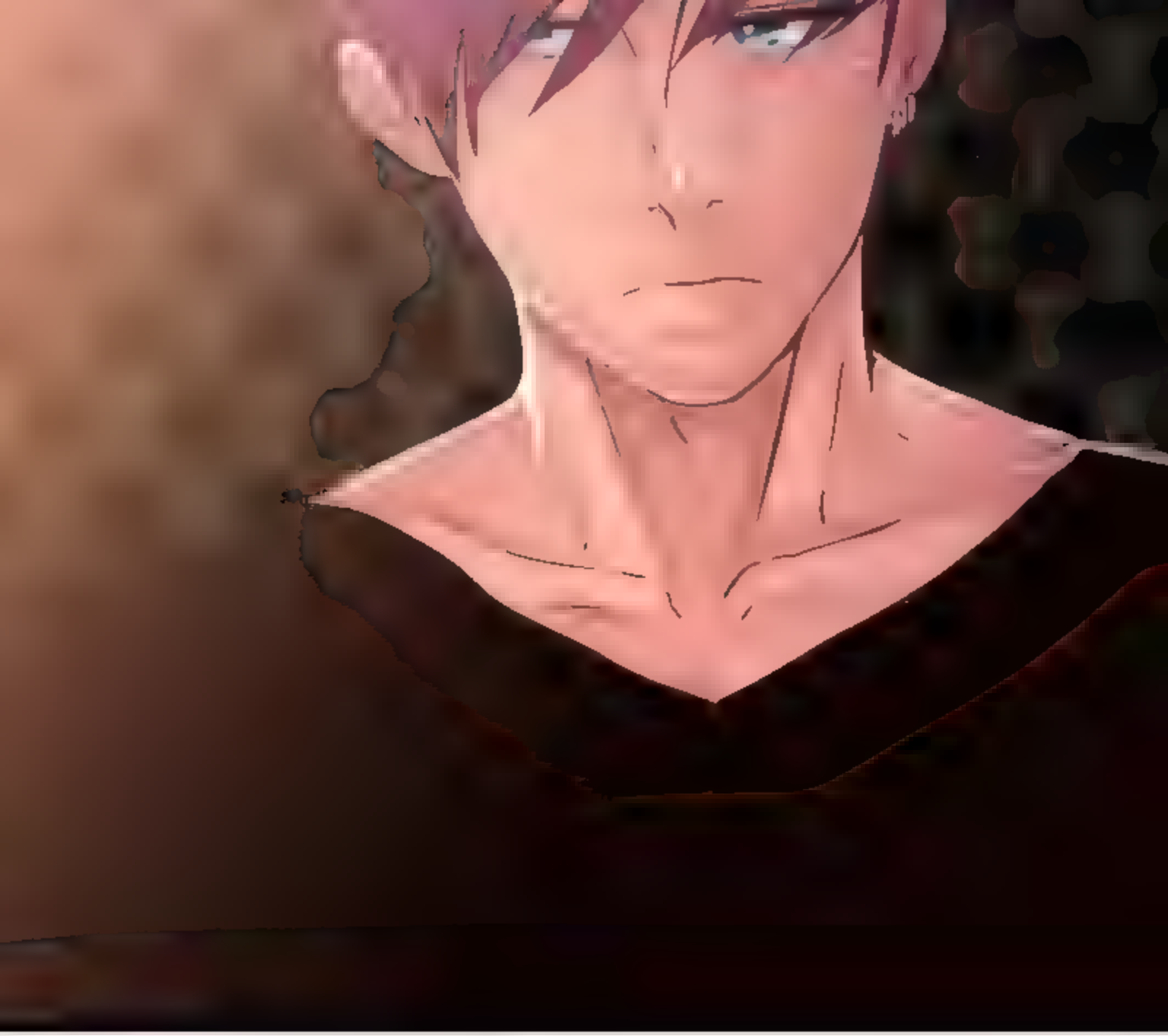




OH DAMN,
I MIGHT JUST
TEAR UP.

KID,
HOW CERTAIN ARE YOU
THAT YOU CAN MAKE ANYA
STRONGER WITHIN
JUST FIVE MONTHS?





CLACC..
CLACC..

...

TWO HUNDRED PERCENT!
I SWEAR ON MY FATHER'S GRAVE-...
WE'LL BEAT THE SH*T OUT OF YOUR TEAM, SUMIRE.

TO BE CONTINUED

TO BE CONTINUED..

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